(ङ) यदि हां, तो केन्द्र सरकार क्षेत्रीय विषमता फैलाने वाली योजनाओं के विरुद्ध क्या कार्रवाई कर रही है; और

(च) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है?

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री सिकन्दर बख्त): (क) जी, हां। केन्द्र सरकार ने उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य को आठ विकास केन्द्र आवंटित किये हैं, जिनमें से सात पहले ही अनुमोदित किये जा चुके हैं।

(ख) उक्त विकास केन्द्रों में से एक विकास केन्द्र जिला पौढ़ी-गढ़वाल में स्थापित किये जाने का प्रस्ताव है। राज्य सरकार से परियोजना रिपोर्ट की प्रतीक्षा की जा रही है।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

(घ) से (च) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Foreign investment proposals for Kerala

1242. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government had requested for approval of foreign collaborations for any industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total number of applications pending for foreign investment in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) and (b) No proposal for foreign investment have been received from Government of Kerala.

(c) There are only two proposals pending for foreign investment in Kerala.

Industrial growth rate

1243. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether industrial growth has further declined during recent months; if so, the month to month growth recorded since January compared to that during the corresponding months in 1997, 1996 and 1995; and

(b) the main reasons for the decline and the major items and sectors of industrial growth affected, indicating percentage decline in each case?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) The overall month to month industrial growth rate recorded in the months of January, February and March 1998, 1997, 1996 and 1995 is furnished in the table given below:

Overall Growth Rates

Months	1995	1996	1997	1998
January	9.4	12.3	3.1	4.5
February	10.5	14.1	3.4	2.8
March	7.9	11.1	2.1	−0.7

(b) The deceleration in industrial growth is perceived to be the cumulative effect of many macro factors, which include, subdued export growth, slow down in investment and sluggishness in demand. The sectors and items which were adversely affected in 1997-98 as compared to 1996-97 are Capital Goods (−4.0%), commercial vehicles (−28.5%), sugar (−14.0%), steel (−0.8%), auto ancillary (−7.0%), newsprint(−5.8%), sewing machines (−9.8%), and leather and fur products (−0.8%).

Promotion of indigenous entrepreneurship

1244. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new industrial policy announced by the new regime is aimed at promoting indigenous entrepreneurship and providing level playing field to indigenous entrepreneur while promoting liberalisation; and

(b) whether various chambers of industry have expressed concern about its impact on flow of foreign direct investment; and if so, the precise nature of protests and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) and (b) As announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in the meeting organised by an Industry Association recently, the Government is a continuing entity. The Government is committed to a policy of promoting investment and liberalisation. From time to time, the industry associations give their suggestions for betterment of industrial sectors to the Government as input for futher policy formulations.

Entry of MNCs into reserved areas

1245. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received since 1991-92 that multinational corporations have infiltrated into activities reserved by legislation to the small scale sector;

(b) the number of prosecutions launched against multinational corporations found in *prima facie* breach of law in this respect; and

(c) the standard procedure Government follows to ensure that parties guilty in the matter are appropriately panalised?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) As per policy no large/multinatinoal corporations are allowed to manufacture an item reserved for exclusive manufacture in the small scale sector except with 50% export obligation. In case, they had been manufacturing the reserved items prior to date of reservation they can continue to do so after obtaining a Carry-on-Business (COB) licence. A specific complaint about the unauthorised manufacture of Sanitary Towels reserved for manufacture in the SSI sector against two MNCs was received. *Prima Facie,* cases of violation were established. Show Cause Notices have been issued to them.

(b) No prosecution has been launched so far.

(c) Any violation by any company is monitored by the concerned administrative Ministry/Department and they initiate action as per the policy contained in Industrial (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951.

Steps to protect IPR

1246. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to take measures to protect Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) of Indian scientists and investors;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) the time by when a decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) to (c) The intellectual property rights of Indian scientists and investors are protected under the Patents Act, 1970.

Beneficiaries under PMRY in Bihar

1247. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what were the year-wise targets of beneficiaries under the Prime Ministers' Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) during the last three years in Bihar;

(b) the number of beneficiaries who were sanctioned loans by Banks during the said period against the target in the State: